

# AMERICAN PENNY MAGAZINE,

AND

## FAMILY NEWSPAPER.

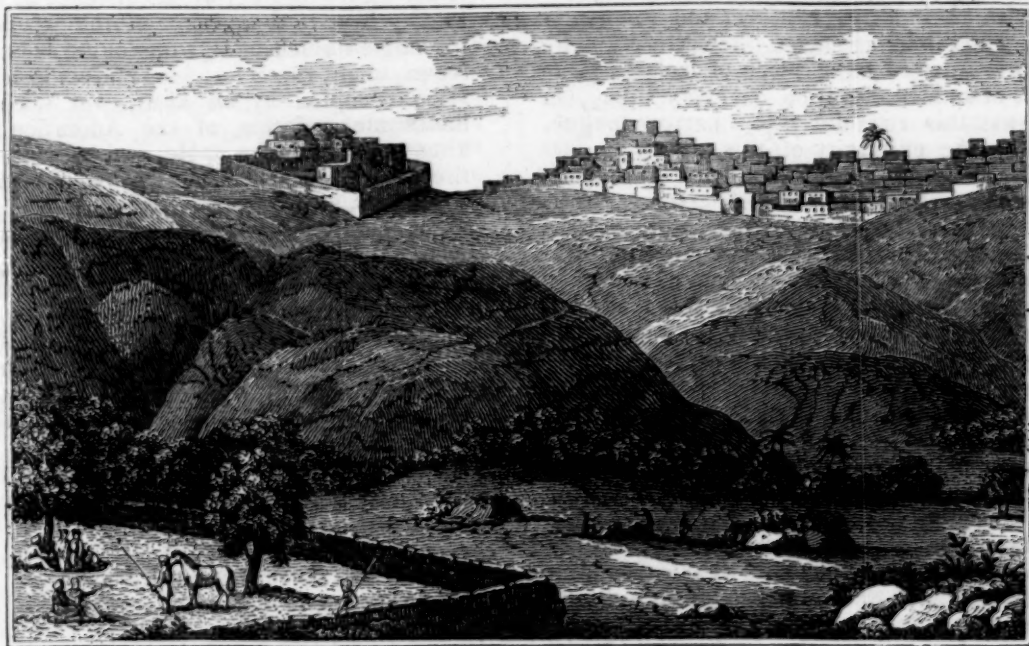
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Express Office, 112 Broadway. }

{ PRICE 3 CENTS, SINGLE, OR  
{ \$1 a Year, in Advance, by mail.

VOL. I.

NEW YORK, SATURDAY, JUNE 21, 1845.

No. 20.



### BETHLEHEM.

THE following description of a visit to this small, but ancient and interesting town, we copy from Mr. Jones's excursions :

On the morning of the 18th we started for Bethlehem, which lies at the distance of about five miles from Jerusalem on the south. Leaving by the Jaffa gate, and crossing by difficult paths the valley of Hinnom, we had then before us an elevated plain, bordered eastwardly by the valley of Jehoshaphat, about two miles wide, and extending three miles toward the south, in which direction it has a slight ascent. At the distance of about two miles from the city, we came to a well, called "the well of the kings," or, "the well of the star," from a tradition that when the wise men had left Jerusalem for Bethlehem, and had reached this place, the star (Matt. ii. 9) appeared again, and led them on to the couch of the infant Messiah. At the extremity of this plain, and on a height commanding a view both of Jerusalem and Bethlehem, is the Greek monastery of Elijah, where is one of the sacred places of the country.

I speak of the place from the authority of others, for I felt no disposition at the time to

trouble myself with matters of this nature. Indeed, it requires a constant effort in travelers among these place to keep the mind free from disgust, and from the baneful effects of the errors, that, like leeches, have fastened themselves to the truth, covering and deforming it, and exhausting its power, while they themselves live on its fading strength.

The monastery is surrounded by a strong wall, and looks as if it might be a place adapted as much for defence as for devotion.

Bethlehem here came into full view, though more than two miles distant; the country between it and us, although broken, being rather low, and the town itself being situated on an eminence of steep ascent. On the way, we left, at a short distance on our right hand, a small square edifice surmounted by a dome, evidently a modern structure, but called the tomb of Rachel, and regarded by Moslems, as well as by the Christian sects here, with high respect. Further on to our left, and below the town of Bethlehem, was a small valley, covered even at this hot season with a refreshing verdure; and here they inform us the shepherds were watching their flocks by night, when the angel appeared to announce

glad tidings of great joy, the birth of "a Saviour, which is Christ the Lord." Near this is also a well, said to be the one from which David's three "mighty men" procured him water at the risk of their lives. Passing these spots, we soon after arrived at the outskirts of Bethlehem; and as our large cavalcade wound up the steep ascent, the whole population of the place came crowding along the way, hanging over the rude walls, and filling every door and window. They are all Christians in name, though they bear an indifferent character; and, what in these countries strikes one with surprise, the women appeared with their faces exposed, and frequently very good looking faces they were. The town is situated on a piece of isolated table land, of sudden elevation on every side. On the east this runs out into a narrow tongue, and at the extremity of this projection, 200 yards distant from the village, are the monastery and church of the Franciscans, covering the spot where the Messiah was born.

The recent earthquake had rent the massive walls of these edifices, but not so as to endanger them, and we met with a ready and hospitable reception beneath the roof. The door of entrance is low and strong, and every where in this country is the traveller reminded of the insecurity of life and property; and, unless people would live there with a martyr's spirit, of the necessity of being constantly prepared for defence.

Having entered the building, we were carried along some winding passages, and found ourselves presently in a church that had once been splendid, but which is now in a dilapidated state, owing partly to the effects of time, and partly to the spoliations of the Turks. It has four rows of columns, ten in each row, and still imposing objects, the effect of which is heightened by gilding and paintings on the wall; but the colors are dim, and the pavement is torn up, and the place has a melancholy grandeur that chills and oppresses the feelings.

They took us from this, after a short period for resting, into some side passages, and we soon found ourselves descending into the Cave of the Nativity. It is reached at one end by a tortuous underground passage, but on the other by a flight of steps that brings us at once to the spot. We were introduced by the former of these, and after winding along for a distance of about fifty feet, we turned short to the left, and a flood of light bursting suddenly upon us, we knew that we were in the Chapel or Cave of the Nativity. The main body of this subterranean apartment is about thirty-five feet long by twelve in width, with a height of ten or twelve feet, but it is irregular in shape. On either side, as we advanced, were benches or seats for those who may choose to come here for meditation. Having proceeded about twenty feet, we came to a small apartment on our right, about ten feet square, the floor of which is lower by eighteen inches than the remainder of the

cave; it is open in front, where are two pillars to support the roof. On the three remaining sides are shallow recesses—one of which, they inform us, is the manger in which the infant Messiah was laid; in the recess opposite the Magi sat, and in the third they deposited the gifts of "gold, frankincense, and myrrh." The rock over this apartment is bare, and visitors are allowed to break off small fragments; the other portions of the cave are all lined with precious marbles.

Just beyond this spot the cave branches to the right and left, a broad flight of steps, on either hand, leading, at the distance of about twenty feet, to the surface of the ground; at the angle formed by this branching is another recess, about three feet deep and six in length. It is occupied by an altar, over which is a handsome painting of the Adoration; the altar is in form of a table, and beneath it, at the centre of a star formed of marble mosaic work, is a silver plate inscribed:

**Hic de Virgine Maria Jesus Christus  
Natus est.**

*Here Jesus Christ was born of the Virgin Mary.*

I suppose there can be no reasonable doubt that this is actually the cave of the Nativity. Hadrian, in derision of the Christians, placed here a statue of Adonis; and Helena, not long after, erected the church, the remains of which we have just been examining. Jerome speaks of the place as undisputed in his day; and, as he resided here, awhile, we must suppose him well acquainted with the subject.

It is sad, when we enter a place of such powerful interest, to be met at the very threshold with things that we cannot believe; and instead of being left to indulge in salutary reflections, to be compelled to commence separating truth from error, and fixing their boundaries, or else to feel the repulsive and chilling effect of scepticism settling upon the whole. The great error of the Romish and Greek churches here has been in endeavoring to fix upon a locality for every event noticed in Scripture; and even the parables of our Saviour have not been suffered to escape from this spirit of blind and injudicious zeal. They point out upon the Mount of Olives certain spots: as those where the Saviour taught the Lord's Prayer, where the Apostles composed the creed, where Christ wept over Jerusalem, where he preached the Judgment, &c.; and on Mount Zion, where the last supper was held, where Peter retired to weep, where Isaiah was sawn in two, and a great variety of other places with which it is not necessary to fatigue the reader.

On our return to the convent, we found an excellent dinner in a state of preparation by the monks, who indeed, during the whole of our visit, treated us with great hospitality and attention; on leaving it, we, in return, made them a present of some gold coin, which, as was perfectly proper, they accepted. During the recent troubles in the country, the strong walls of their monastery had afforded



protection to the persons and property of many of the inhabitants of Bethlehem; and we found several of the chambers and passages still filled with furniture and bags of grain. While dinner was in preparation, the natives of the town crowded in with a great variety of articles which they are in the habit of making for pilgrims: crosses, inkstands, boxes of mother of pearl, huge clasps for girdles made of a complete shell with figures cut in relief, and beads of the same material, and of a substance called Mecca-stone, which is sometimes colored red or black. Most of these objects were rude enough, but some of the figures in relief were conceived and executed in a manner that would not have disgraced an Italian artist. The pilgrims place these things first in the Cave of the Nativity, and then carry them to the Holy Sepulchre, where, being deposited on the tomb, prayers are said over them, which are supposed to give them a supernatural power over evil spirits, so far as to protect the persons and property of the possessors. Heathenish delusion!

While most of us were laying in large stores of their bead and pearl manufactures, some of our younger companions were submitting to the painful process of having figures, from Scriptural subjects, pricked and stained in the arm with blue or black pigment, a species of tattooing, at which, it seems, the Bethlehemites are expert, and to which pilgrims very often submit. It is not often that they have such a market for their commodities, and I believe our visit to Bethlehem will long be remembered; to us it was certainly a very interesting epoch.

#### History of the Gazette de France—the first French Newspaper.

*Compiled from the Magazin Pittoresque, for the Am. Pen. Magazine.*

When this newspaper was commenced, in 1631, a satirical and allegorical picture was painted, which is still preserved, and represents a female figure seated on a throne, surrounded by about a dozen persons. She represented the Gazette, and they came offering their services, or proclaiming their own merits. Among them was Falsehood, who declared, in an accompanying verse of poetry, that he was to supply the publisher with much of his materials, and claimed the name of his Secretary. Truth appears wearing a mask; and Renaudot, the founder of the paper and the father of the French press, proclaims an extensive empire over the minds of men. A crier, whose business it was to sell the papers, asks for plasters to hasten the growth of cancers in the brains of the people, which produce a love for the false and marvellous, on which his living was to depend:

“Monsieur l'historien, donne moi des emplatres  
Pour nourrir les cancers des cerveaux curieux,  
Ces beaux contes fardés de nos faux demi-dieux,  
Dont pour notre profit les fous sont idolâtres.”

Beside these, are five men in the costumes of as many nations, presenting letters containing news from their different countries.

On the whole, the conceit was well devised; and one accustomed to read modern French newspapers, may be struck with the wonderful fulfilment of some of the anticipations here expressed. Among other things, we may allude to the fact, that it has been the practice for years, with some of the Paris Gazettes, to keep a standing head of “*Mentis du jour*,” [lies of the day,] under which they copy each other's assertions.

A merely literary periodical paper had been published ever since the reign of Henry IV.; but nothing like a political newspaper had any existence until the month of May, 1631, when the Gazette de France first issued from the press. The term had an origin not generally known. Gazette was the name of a piece of Italian money, which was the price of small periodical publications issued before that time in Italy and Spain.

The founder of the Gazette de France was Théophraste Renaudot, a native of Loudon, born in 1584, who, having received a doctor's degree at Montpellier in 1606, and travelled much, took up his residence first in his native city, and subsequently, in 1612, in the French capital. He was appointed by Cardinal Richelieu to some offices, and in 1631 obtained permission to publish a Gazette, as it is said, in the following manner. Being Commissary General of the poor invalids, and at the same time intimate with the celebrated astrologist D'Hozier, he had amused himself and some of the poor sick people under his charge by reading to them some of the numerous and curious letters received by his friend from different places. Having been struck with the thought that some of these might be printed with advantage, he proposed it to Richelieu, who doubtless foresaw the use a gazette might be to him, and gave his patronage to the plan, as well as aid to its execution. He wrote and furnished the editor with such news as he wished to make public: articles on treaties, accounts of battles and sieges, reports of generals, &c. It is even said that Louis 13th sometimes contributed to supply him with materials.

The Paris Magazin Pittoresque, (to which we owe the facts contained in this notice) remarks with reason, that while the periodical press of France, even under the restrictions of Richelieu, has preserved much important diplomatic and other information that would have been lost without it, yet that it has since produced many results not at all designed or anticipated by its first patrons, and quite hostile to their views.

It appears from the publisher's address to the king, in the prospectus of the Gazette de France, that “all the neighboring states”

of Europe, at that time, had weekly papers, containing a collection of news, foreign and domestic; so that France, now so long the chief source of news for the continent, was then far behind the neighboring countries.



#### RHINANTHERA COCCINEA.

This is a plant of the most splendid description, when seen in the perfection in which it is found in its wild state in Cochin China. It is a parasitical plant, fixing its roots in the bark of trees, and extending itself to their highest branches, often overtopping them, and covering them with a mantle of flowers.

A print like this can convey little idea of its appearance, beyond the mere form of the leaves and petals. The descriptions of it, by those who have seen it in its native wilds, are very glowing, and excite the greatest admiration. The color of the flowers is crimson mixed with orange, and they are so very large and abundant as to form a mass of surprising richness and brilliancy. It is not to be wondered at, that the plant should be a favorite with the people, and frequently found in their habitations, cultivated with care, as it thrives well under shelter, and only requires to be set in a small jar, hung from the roof, and kept wet about the root, to send down long pendant shoots, which soon bud and blossom with the utmost profusion. When stinted in its supply of water, or hung in air too much dried by artificial heat, however, it withholds its flower-buds, and denies us both

their beauty and fragrance; for the odor of the flowers is no less attractive than their form and color.

#### Wonderful Discovery in Natural History.

Our readers will doubtless remember, says the Mobile Advertiser, the sensation produced in 1840 by the discovery of the bones of the great Missourium of Missouri. We have now to announce that the same discoverer, Dr. Albert C. Koch, has brought to light the fossil remains of a monster in the animal creation that puts in the shade the celebrated "Iguanodon" of England, of colossal size, and the still more gigantic Missourium. This last discovery may be set down to the State of Alabama, and to a county adjoining Mobile, namely, Washington—being embedded in a yellow lime rock formation, near the old Washington court house. Dr. K. is a German by birth and education, but has already acquired considerable reputation in this country for his geological researches and his ardent devotion to the cause of the natural sciences generally. He gives to this last most remarkable fossil wonder (which he describes as "the greatest wonder of this age of wonders,") the name of "Zeulodon Silliman," in compliment to Prof. Silliman of Yale College.

The description of this monster is in substance as follows: "I have succeeded in bringing to light the very nearly complete skeleton of a most colossal and terrible reptile, that may be justly termed the king of the kings of reptiles. Its length is *one hundred and four feet*—the solid portions of the vertebra are from 14 to 18 inches in length, and from 8 to 12 inches in diameter, each averaging 75 pounds in weight. Its greatly elongated jaws are armed with not less than forty incisor or cutting teeth, four canine teeth or fangs, and eight molars or grinders. These teeth all fit into each other when the jaws are closed, and it is clear that the animal was of the carnivorous nature. The eyes were evidently large, and were prominently situated on the forehead, giving the animal the power of keeping a constant and vigorous watch for its prey. The body had members attached resembling paddles or fins, which, in proportion to the size of the animal, were small, and were doubtless intended to propel the body of this enormous creature through the waters of those large rivers and seas which it inhabited or frequented. Each of these paddles or fins is composed of 21 bones, which form, in union, seven freely articulating joints. The ribs are of a very peculiar shape, and exceedingly numerous. They are three times the thickness at the lower that they are at the superior extremity."

The several parts of this truly wonderful animal are not yet joined together, but we understand that the gentleman who has them in his charge is willing to arrange and prepare them for exhibition, if there were any probability that he would be remunerated for his labor and expense. Under the circum-



stances, we presume he will take this rare curiosity, which of right belongs to Alabama, to some other place for its first exhibition.

Alabama appears to abound with these fossil remains of animals that are now extinct. The Albany Daily Citizen, of a recent date, thus describes one of these wonders now exhibiting in that city, which, we doubt not, is that discovered a few years since, by the late John G. Creagh, Esq. of Clark county, in this State.

It is the petrified vertebræ of a monster called, by the naturalists, the Zuyglocon—a creature which must have been half alligator and half whale. It was discovered embedded in a chalk formation, on the banks of the Alabama river, and was boxed up and sent to Professor Emmons, of this city. The vertebræ, extending from a portion of the head to the tip of the tail, is eighty feet in length as it lies upon the floor! The creature must have been, in life, from ninety to one hundred feet long!—*Alabama paper.*

#### FOREIGN LANGUAGES.

*The Spanish Fable of Iriarte*, a translation of which, by a lady, we published in our 9th number, page 144.

*El té y la Salvia. (Tea and Sage.)*

El té, viniendo del imperio chino,  
Se encontró con la salvia en el camino.  
Ella le dijo: Adonde vas, compadre?  
A Europa voi, comadre,  
Donde sé que me compran á buen precio.  
Yo (respondió la salvia) voi á China;  
Que allá con sumo aprecio  
Me reciben por gusto y medicina.\*  
En Europa me tratan de salvage,  
Y jamas he podido hacer fortuna.  
Anda con Dios, no perderás el viage,  
Pues no hai nacion ninguna  
Que, a todo lo estrangero,  
No de con gusto aplausos y dinero.

La salvia me perdona;  
Que del comercio su maxima se opone,  
Si hablase del commercio literario,  
Yo no defenderia lo contrario;  
Porque en él para algunos es vicio  
Lo que es en general un beneficio:  
Y Espanol que tal vez recitaria  
Quinientos versos de Boileau y el Taso,  
Puede ser que no sepa todavia  
En qué lengua los hizo Garcilaso.

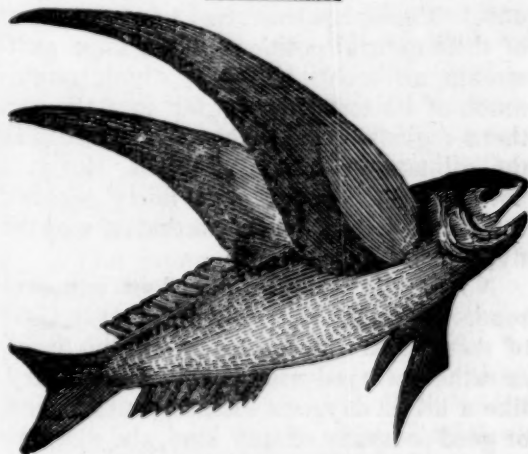
\* Los chinos estiman tanto la salvia, que por una caja de esta yerba suelen dar dos, y á veces tres, de té verde. (*El Dicc. de Hist. Nat.*)

*Discovery of Ancient Treasure.*—We find the following story in the Columbus (Georgia) Enquirer:

We learn from a source which we think entitled to full credit, that a large deposit of silver coin was discovered about two weeks since on the east bank of the Altamaha river,

about five miles below the junction of the Ocmulgee and Oconee, in Tatnall county. The place is called Milligan's Bluff near Hall's Ferry. The circumstances related are that a man named John Maza, discovered three dollars, which had become exposed by the blowing up of a tree. He commenced examining the earth below, and the coin continued to appear, until he had exhumed the handsome amount of about \$45,000. They appeared to have been deposited in canvass bags, and at some remote period, as the latest date on the coin was over 160 years since.

The place where they were found had the appearance of an ancient fortification, such as are common in many parts of Georgia, several of which may be seen in this vicinity.



THE FLYING FISH.

There are three species of these singular fishes, one of which was depicted in a small cut in our 14th number, (page 221,) with a description in the familiar language which we employ under our juvenile head. The cut above gives a better idea of a species less common, we believe at a distance from the equator. It is of a less agile and elegant form, and has but two wings. Little is known of the habits of these animals, or rather we feel our ignorance more sensibly than of their fellow tenants of the sea, which offer less incitement to our inquiries. Multitudes of fishes, of different shapes and sizes, are seen or heard of by us, in the course of our lives, concerning which we feel no particular curiosity, and of which we are willing to remain ignorant. But a flying fish can hardly make one of its gambols, without calling up in the spectator a gaze, a smile and a rapid series of queries.

The following animated descriptions of

the appearance of flying fishes at sea, we have selected from one of the nautical letters of that often accurate and pleasing writer, Captain Hall :

"Perhaps there is not any more characteristic evidence of our being within the tropical regions, one, I mean, which strikes the imagination more forcibly, than the company of those picturesque little animals, if it be correct so to call them, the flying-fish. It is true, that a stray one or two may sometimes be seen far north, making a few short skips out of the water, and I even remember seeing several near the edge of the banks of Newfoundland, in latitude 45°. These, however, had been swept out of their natural position by the huge gulf-stream, an ocean in itself, which retains much of its temperature far into the northern regions, and possibly helps to modify the climate over the Atlantic. But it is not until the voyager has fairly reached the heart of the torrid zone that he sees the flying-fish in perfection.

No familiarity with the sight can ever render us indifferent to the graceful flight of these most interesting of all the finny, or rather, winged tribe. On the contrary, like a bright day, or a smiling countenance, or good company of any kind, the more we see of them, the more we learn to value their presence. I have, indeed, hardly ever observed a person so dull, or unimaginative, that his eye did not glisten as he watched a shoal, or, it may well be called, a covey of flying-fish rise from the sea, and skim along for several hundred yards. There is something in it so very peculiar, so totally dissimilar to every thing else in other parts of the world, that our wonder goes on increasing every time we see even a single one take its flight. The incredulity, indeed, of the old Scottish wife on this head is sufficiently excusable. "You may hae seen rivers o' milk, and mountains o' sugar," said she to her son, returned from a voyage; "but you'll ne'er gar me believe you hae seen a fish that could flee!"

I have endeavored to form an estimate as to the length of these flights, and find two hundred yards set down in my notes as about the longest; but, I think, subsequent observation has extended the space. The amiable Humboldt good-naturedly suggests, that these flights may be mere gambols, and not indicative of the flying-fish being pursued by their formidable enemy the dolphin. I wish I could believe so; for it were much more agreeable to suppose, that at the end

of the fine sweep which they take, at the height of ten or twenty feet above the surface, they may fall gently and safely on the bosom of the sea, than pop full into the voracious jaws of their merciless foe.

I do not recollect whether the eminent traveller just mentioned, who not only observes many more things than most men, but describes them much better, has anywhere mentioned his having witnessed one of these chases. Indeed, they are not very often seen; at least, I am not sure that I have observed above half a dozen, though I have crossed and recrossed the equator fourteen times. The prettiest I remember to have assisted at, as the French say, and the details of which I shall describe presently, was during the first voyage I ever made through those regions of the sun. The pleasant Trade which had wafted us, with different degrees of velocity, over a distance of more than a thousand miles, at last gradually failed. The first symptom of the approaching calm was the sails beginning to flap bently against the masts, so gently, indeed, that we half hoped it was caused, not so much by the diminished force of the Breeze, with which we were very unwilling to part, as by that long and peculiar swell which,

"In the torrid clime  
Dark heaving,"

has found the hand of a master-artist to embody it in a description, more technically correct, and certainly far more graphic in all its parts, than if the picture had been filled up from the log-books of ten thousand voyagers.

A few days after we were stealing along pleasantly enough, under the genial influence of this newly found air, which as yet was confined to the upper sails, and every one was looking open-mouthed to the eastward to catch a breath of cool air, or was congratulating his neighbor on getting rid of the tiresome calm in which we had been so long half roasted, half suffocated, about a dozen flying-fish rose out of the water, just under the fore-chains, and skimmed away to windward, at the height of ten or twelve feet above the surface. I have already mentioned, that the longest flight of these singular fish is about an eighth of an English mile, or two hundred yards, which they perform in somewhat more than half a minute. These flights vary from the extreme length mentioned above to a mere skip out of water. Generally speaking, they fly to a considerable distance in a straight line in



the wind's eye, and then gradually turn off to leeward. But sometimes the flying fish merely skims the surface, so as to touch the tops of the successive waves, without rising and falling to follow the undulations of the sea. There is a prevalent idea afloat, but I know not how just it may be, that they can fly no longer than the wings or fins remain wet. That they rise as high as twenty feet out of the water is certain, from their being sometimes found in the channels of a line-of-battle-ship; and they frequently fly into a seventy-four-gun-ship's main deck ports. On a frigate's fore-castle and gangways, also, elevations which may be taken at eighteen or twenty feet, or more, are they often found. I remember seeing one, about nine inches in length, and weighing not less, I should suppose, than half a pound, skim into the *Volage's* main-deck port just abreast of the gangway. One of the main-topmen was coming up the quarter deck ladder at the moment, when the flying-fish, entering the port struck the astonished mariner on the temple, knocked him off the step, and very nearly laid him sprawling.

I was once in a prize, a low Spanish schooner, not above two feet and a half out of the water, when we used to pick up flying-fish enough daily about the decks in the morning to give us a capital breakfast. They are not unlike whittings to the taste, though rather firmer, and very dry. They form, I am told, a considerable article of food for the negroes in the harbors in the West Indies. The method of catching them at night is thus described:—In the middle of the canoe a net is spread to a considerable distance, supported by out-riggers above the surface of the water; the fish dash at the light, pass it, and fall into the net on the other side.

Shortly after observing the cluster of flying-fish rise out of the water, we discovered two or three dolphins ranging past the ship, in all their beauty, and watched with some anxiety to see one of those aquatic chases of which our friends the Indiamen had been telling us such wonderful stories. We had not long to wait, for the ship, in her progress through the water, soon put up another shoal of these little things, which, as the others had done, took their flight directly to windward. A large dolphin, which had been keeping company with us abreast of the weather gangway at the depth of two or three fathoms, and, as usual, glistening most beautifully in the sun, no sooner detected our poor dear little friends take wing, than he turned his head towards them, and

darting to the surface leaped from the water with the velocity of a cannon ball. But although the impetus with which he shot himself into the air gave him an initial velocity greatly exceeding that of the flying-fish, the start which his fated prey had got enabled them to keep ahead of him for a considerable time.

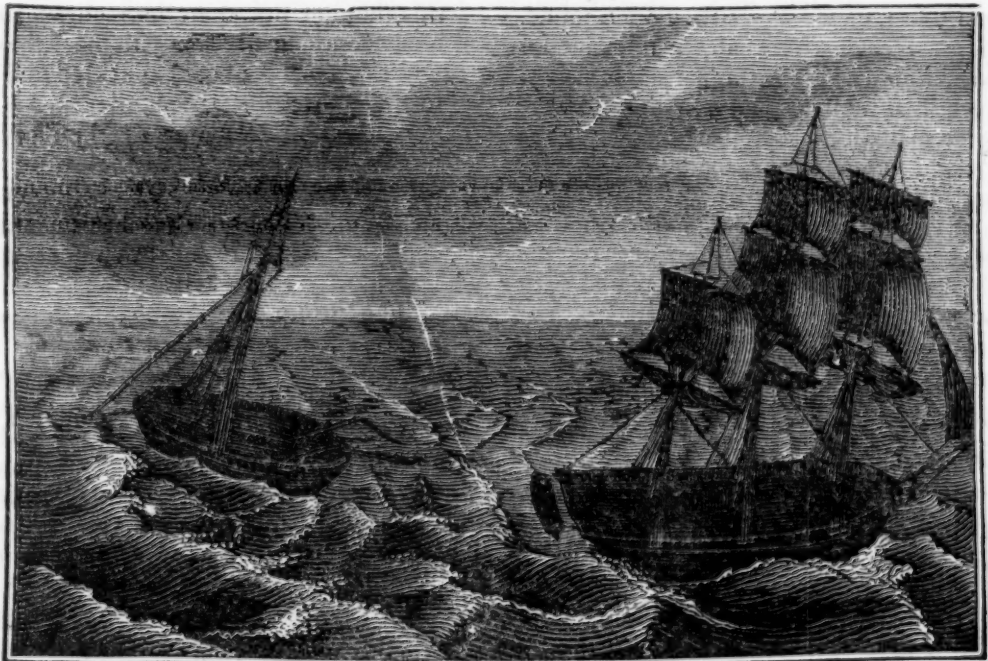
The length of the dolphin's first spring could not be less than ten yards; and after he fell we could see him gliding like lightning through the water for a moment, when he again rose and shot forward with considerably greater velocity than at first, and, of course, to a still greater distance. In this manner the merciless pursuer seemed to stride along the sea with fearful rapidity, while his brilliant coat sparkled and flashed in the sun quite splendidly. As he fell headlong on the water at the end of each huge leap, a series of circles were sent far over the still surface, which lay as smooth as a mirror; for the breeze, although enough to set the royal studding sails asleep, was hardly as yet felt below.

The group of wretched flying-fish, thus hotly pursued, at length dropped into the sea; but we were rejoiced to observe that they merely touched the top of the swell, and scarcely sunk in it, at least they instantly set off again in a fresh and even more vigorous flight. It was particularly interesting to observe that the direction they now took was quite different from the one in which they had set out, implying but too obviously that they had detected their fierce enemy, who was following them with giant steps along the waves, and now gaining rapidly upon them. His terrific pace, indeed, was two or three times as swift as theirs—poor little things!

The greedy dolphin, however, was fully as quick sighted as the flying-fish which were trying to elude him; for whenever they varied their flight in the least degree, he lost not the tenth part of a second in shaping a new course, so as to cut off the chase, while they, in a manner really not unlike that of the hare, doubled more than once upon their pursuer. But it was soon too plainly to be seen that the strength and confidence of the flying-fish were fast ebbing. Their flights became shorter and shorter, and their course more fluttering and uncertain, while the enormous leaps of the dolphin appeared to grow only more vigorous at each bound. Eventually, indeed, we could see, or fancied we could see, that this skilful sea-sportsman arranged all his springs with such an assurance

of success, that he contrived to fall, at the end of each, just under the very spot on which the exhausted flying-fish were about to drop. Sometimes this catastrophe took place at too great a distance for us to see from the deck exactly what happened; but on our mounting high into the rigging, we may be said to have been in at the death; for then we could discover that the unfortunate little creatures, one after another, either popped right into the dolphin's jaws as they lighted on the water, or were snapped up instantly afterwards.

It was impossible not to take an active part with our pretty little friends of the weaker side, and accordingly we very speedily had our revenge. The middies and the sailors, delighted with the chance, rigged out a dozen or twenty lines from the jib-boom-end and spritsail yard-arms, with hooks baited merely with bits of tin, the glitter of which resembles so much that of the body and wings of the flying-fish, that many a proud dolphin, making sure of a delicious morsel, leaped in rapture at the deceitful prize.

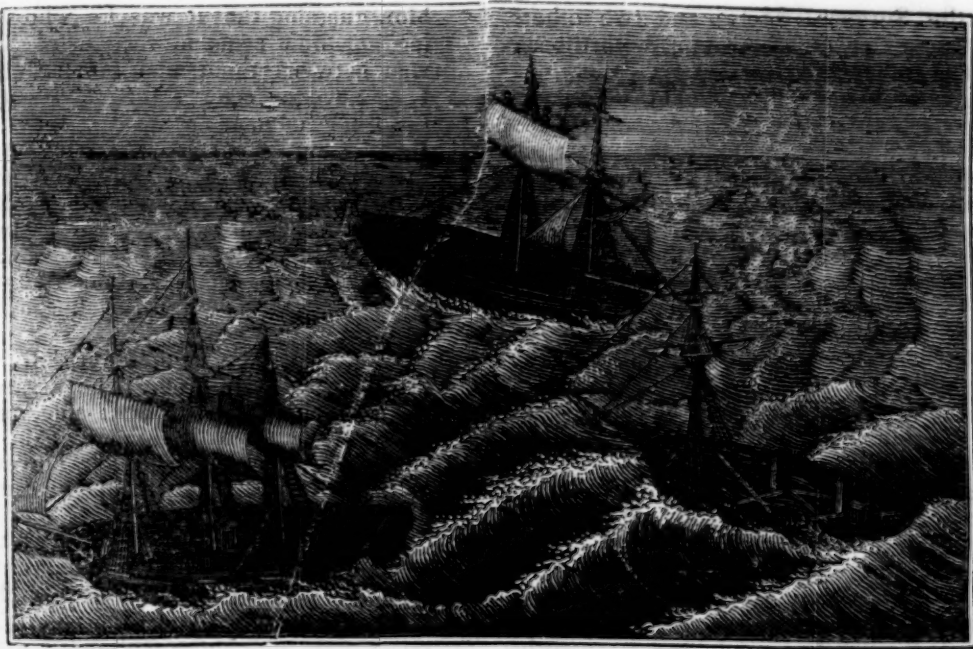


### SHIPWRECKS.

Having heretofore given the names and described the uses of some parts of a ship, and illustrated them also with prints, (see Nos. 7 and 8,) we may now present two or three views of vessels which have suffered disasters at sea. It is easy to perceive that even the mere crippling of a ship, as the loss of yards, sails, masts, &c. is denominated, may render her less able to bear the storms and waves, to stem currents and make a short voyage, which is often an important object. But if, as is often the case, the violence which has torn away her upper parts, has wrenched her planks or timbers, the injury below may be of a more alarming or irreparable character.

In the prints here introduced are represented three vessels in distress, which were severally met with by an American ship a few years ago, in crossing the Atlantic. The views were sketched by a passenger, who stationed himself aloft, in the round-top, which is a position elevated twenty feet or more above the deck, commanding an uninterrupted view upon the ocean in every direction to the horizon. In each of the cuts the ship alluded to is introduced in the foreground. Although the excitement of the moment, and the changeable positions of vessels meeting at sea, were not favorable to accuracy of drawing, the views before may serve for illustration.





## TWO BRIGS IN DISTRESS.

The first print shows us a schooner, with the loss of her mainmast and bowsprit. The reader may realize something of the importance of this loss, when he recollects what was said in No. 8 of this Magazine, (page 121,) on stays and backstays, of which the mast, has been deprived. It is not able to hold up a sail to a strong wind thus unsupported.

In the second print we have two damaged brigs; one has lost her main and mizen masts, and the other her foremast and bowsprit. The latter is able to keep up her foretopsail and mizen topsail, both close-reefed, so that she probably can still steer her course, or at least can "lie to," that is, avoid driving stern foremost, which is a most hazardous position, because the waves would dash in the stern, as it is flat, and cannot divide them as the bow does.

Disasters at sea are of endless variety and circumstances. Injuries of many kinds may occur to any of the numerous parts under any of the circumstances of day and night, season and weather; and one of those which would be of second importance in one case, may prove dangerous or fatal in another.

The most hazardous shipwrecks are usually those which occur on a lee shore, whether the bottom be of sand or rocks; but scarcely any situation can be more terrible than that in which a ship is sinking at sea, with neither land nor other vessels in sight.

We hope the few hints we have now given on these subjects, may enable some of our readers better to understand a few narratives of the sea which we design to introduce in some of our future numbers.

## Death from Tobacco.

We learn from the Dedham Democrat that a little boy of six years old, son of Mr. Lewis Cobbett, of West Dedham, went to the store of Mr. Jason Ellis, Jr., in that place, and asked the clerk, a boy by the name of Hank, for some kind of confectionary—that he was told they had no sugar plums, but he could have some tobacco. The child replied that tobacco would make him sick. The clerk argued that it would not, and took a cracker and put on some butter and molasses and tobacco, and succeeded in some way in getting it down the child. The little fellow was taken with vomiting soon after, and continued to do so for several days, and at length went into fits, and finally died on Thursday, the 6th instant.

## Death of La Salle.

La Salle, the enterprising Frenchman, who perished on his unfortunate expedition for the discovery of the mouth of the Mississippi, in 1687, appears to have confided too strongly in his pre-conceived idea, that the great river emptied farther westward. He therefore sailed by it without examining the coast with proper care; and after landing, and pursuing a severe march, he and his companions appear to have become dissatisfied with each other. At length, La Salle having expressed himself in a violent way tow-

ards the Surgeon, Lietot, and two others, these three men murdered him, with the servant and Indian huntsman of La Salle.

Crime is always followed by uneasiness. The conspirators dreaded the vengeance of their leader, and finally, in their desperation, resolved to shed his blood. An unexpected incident delivered their prey into their hands. The swelling of a river prevented their return to camp for two days, and the uncle, anxious about the absence of his nephew, set forth to seek him. It was remarked that his manner on departing was troubled and sad, and that he inquired if Moranget had quarrelled with any one.

He then called Foutel, and entrusted him with the command of his camp, ordering him to go his rounds in it from time to time, and to light fires, that the smoke might bring him on his road again, in case he should lose his way: he likewise bid him give nobody leave to absent himself. He set out on the 20th, attended by father Anastasius and an Indian. As he approached the place where the assassins had stopped, he saw some eagles soaring pretty near the place, and concluding that there was some carrion, he fired his gun; and the conspirators, who had not yet seen

him, guessing that it was he who was coming, got their arms in readiness. The river was between them and him; Duhaut and L'Archeveque crossed it; and seeing M. de La Salle advancing slowly, they stopped. Duhaut hid himself in the long grass, with his gun cocked, L'Archeveque advanced a little more, and a moment after, M. de La Salle knowing him, asked him where his nephew was. He answered that he was lower down. At the same instant Duhaut fired; M. de La Salle received the shot in his head, and fell down dead.

It was on the 20th of May, 1687, that this murder was committed. The assassins had force and boldness on their side, and seized upon authority with impunity; in dividing the treasure of the expedition, however, they quarrelled, and finally perished by each other's hands.

La Salle was a man of ability: the most unhappy thing for his memory is, that he died unpitied, from his own violence of character, while the bad success of his undertaking has given him, with those who judge superficially, the appearance of a mere adventurer.—*St. Louis Rev.*



ST. ANN'S CHURCH, BROOKLYN.

A handsome volume of 200 pages has just appeared, from the press of Mr. Fish, (41 Front street, New York,) containing a history of this oldest Episcopal Church in our neighboring city, with notices of the Sunday schools and other churches connected with it. The work is from the pen of the Rev. Dr. Cutler, the present rector. From this book we glean the following particulars:

St. Ann's was for more than forty years the only Episcopal Church in Brooklyn; and of the Churches of the same Communion that have since arisen within our borders, her members

have been the chief founders, or have greatly assisted in the organization. Three of her eleven Rectors have been made Bishops over important Dioceses.

The first religious society in Brooklyn was the *Dutch Reformed*, organized in 1660—one hundred and eighty-five years ago—under the pastoral care of the Rev. Henry Solinus, (or Hendricus Selwyn,) and from which has emanated the present charge of the Rev. Mr. Dwight. Its limits were not confined to the village, but embraced much of the surrounding country and its place of worship, for nearly a century and a half, was in Fulton street, some distance above the Military Garden. In



1810, it was transferred to its present site in Joralemon street.

It is said that the *Episcopal Church* was established here in 1766; it is set down in some historical publications upon Brooklyn and Long Island; but on what data or facts the statement rests, the writer of this, after much research, has failed to discover. There were, even at the close of the Revolutionary War, less than sixty houses in all the town.

The Rev. John Sayre, employed as one of the Missionaries of this Society, was in the year 1774 transferred from Newburgh (N. Y.) to Fairfield, in Connecticut, and there remained until the destruction of that town by the British forces under Governor Tryon in 1779, when he came to Brooklyn. Soon after this, he went by invitation to Huntington, L. I. When he had been but a few days here, however, the house at which he was staying was entered by a party of men from Connecticut, who, after a diligent search, retired without doing any injury, or taking anything away. This circumstance led Mr. Sayre to suppose himself to have been the object of pursuit, and he therefore thought it prudent to return immediately to Brooklyn.

The following incident is related by the Episcopal Minister in Fairfield (in a note to a sermon preached in 1842), on the authority of a communicant of his Church, then 83 years old, daughter of the Mr. Piersons here mentioned:

"While the flames were still raging at Fairfield, Gov. Tryon and Rev. Mr. Sayre were observed walking together through the principal street by a Mr. Piersons, an ardent patriot, and probably one of the sufferers, who was a remarkably good shot with a rifle. Exasperated at the wanton and cruel conduct of the British commander, Piersons raised his piece three several times for the purpose of shooting him, but as often and finally desisted, lest he should endanger the life of his minister also, whom, in respect to this outrage, he justly considered to be blameless. In passing through a field towards his home, Piersons encountered and captured a British soldier; but soon after, falling in with a party of the enemy, he was captured in his turn. Preparations were made to hang him; a rope was affixed to his neck, and then to a tree; but just as he was about to be swung off, a British officer came up, cut the rope, and gave orders that Piersons should be retained as a prisoner. He was accordingly soon afterwards sent to the Brooklyn station, the knowledge of which coming to Mr. Sayre, he interceded successfully with the British authorities for his release, and had him sent home. It is but just to Mr. S. to add, that this intercession was made without any intimation having been given him that his own life had been preserved by the forbearance of his former parishioner."

In the spring of 1784, the Rev. George Wright commenced the Episcopal service in the house since known as No. 40 Fulton street,

(now about 43,) which was pulled down on the 12th of March, 1784. Subsequently, the congregation removed to the barn of Mr. John Middagh, in the rear of his house at the corner of Henry and Fulton streets, (standing in 1844,) and still later to a house built by the British troops at the corner of Middagh and Fulton streets, which was suitably fitted up for the purpose.

In 1785, a union or partnership house of worship was erected on the present Episcopal burying-ground in Fulton street, for Mr. Matlack, an independent preacher, with whom a Mr. Wall was associated as Clerk. It was not long, however, before several of those who had taken a prominent part in the undertaking became disaffected, and the building soon afterwards coming into the possession of some of Mr. Wright's members, it was thenceforward used by his congregation — being consecrated about the same time by Bishop Provost.

On the 23d of April, 1787, a legislative act was passed, incorporating "The Episcopal Church of Brooklyn," in which the following persons were named as

*Trustees.* — Messrs. Whitehead Cornell, Matthew Gleaves, Joshua Sands, Joseph Sealy, John Van Nostrand, Aquila Giles, and Henry Stanton.

We find the Church had the following pastors after Mr. Wright: Rev. Elijah Rattoone, from 1789 to 1792; Rev. Ambrose Hull; Rev. Samuel Nesbitt to 1798, during whose rectorship it was incorporated; Rev. John Ireland to 1807; Rev. Henry James Feltus to 1814; Rev. John Prentiss Kewley Henshaw to 1817; Rev. Hugh Smith to 1819; and Rev. Henry Ustick Underdonk to 1827; and Rev. Charles Pettit McIlvaine to 1833, when Rev. Benjamin Clark Cutler, the present rector, received his appointment.

The "stone church," the predecessor of the present building, having been greatly injured, in 1808, by the explosion of a gunpowder magazine in the neighborhood, was taken down in 1824.

#### SYMPATHY FOR ITALY.

*The Christian Alliance* propose to us the people of Italy, as the first object of interest. Truly there is much in their present condition to recommend them to our special attention. While most other nations of Europe partake, with some degree of freedom, of the intellectual light which pervades our own country, Italy is denied its enjoyment, under severe penalties. Although the fact is not generally realized here, knowledge of the most important kinds is now as much prohibited in some parts of Italy, as it was in England four cen-

centuries ago, and indeed under penalties at that time unknown. Yet there are not wanting those who desire information. Many of the Italians have travelled abroad, and seen the practical influence of principles the opposite of those which prevail in their own country. They have been able to cast off false opinions, instilled into their minds by their teachers, and to rise above the prejudices of their education. There are now perhaps not fewer than twenty thousand exiles in different countries, who cannot live in freedom at home without denying their principles, and many of whom are already robbed of property, and sentenced to imprisonment or death, for no immorality, but merely for conscience sake,

In short, there are multitudes, at home and abroad, who desire to have the truth introduced into Italy, and diffused among the people, especially religious truth; and, with affecting earnestness, a solemn appeal was first made by some of them to our countrymen about three years ago, which was the first step towards the formation of that Society which has already risen to such distinguished favor among us. It may perhaps be asserted that no other philanthropic association in America has ever received such evidence of enthusiastic feelings among us as the Christian Alliance. No doubt the Bull of the Pope has made its objects to be better appreciated: but no man who considers for a moment the character of our countrymen, and the affecting claims presented to them by the people of Italy, can fail to see, that the promotion of religious liberty throughout the world, by legitimate, enlightened and peaceful means, is a most appropriate undertaking for us, and that the "*Bible for Italy!*" is a cry that must of necessity inspire us all with animation, zeal, and enthusiasm. The reason is, that the effects of the introduction of that book into that land, must be powerful, general and lasting. Think of the results, first in Italy, then in countries under the influence of Italy! But is it possible? That is the question often asked with great doubt in months past. But who will ask it now, since the Pope himself has decided it by the strongest affirmation he can give?

Hence the feelings excited by the late crowded meetings of the Christian Alliance in New York and Boston. The plan is feasible; the castle of midnight, whose dark shadow has spread over Europe and many

other countries the gloom under which they have lain for more than a thousand years, is accessible to light; her very garrison supplicate us to withhold it no longer; and we have only to train our printing presses to bear point blank upon the walls and battlements, to gain, for the human race, a glorious, a mighty, and a bloodless victory.

#### LITERARY NOTICE.

"*Proceedings of the Ethnological Society, Vol. I. New York: Bartlett & Welford, 1845.*" 8vo. 500 pages.

This is a work which will greatly add to the literary and scientific reputation of the country. From a society which has been in existence scarcely two years, and with but a small number of active members, it is a very gratifying production.

The body of this volume is occupied with a very profound and labored paper from Hon. Albert Gallatin: "Notes on the Semi-civilized Nations of Mexico, Yucatan and Central America." In this the history, languages and astronomical method of computation are presented at large, with everything relevant in arts, customs, manners, &c. The long and patient course of research, careful analysis, cautious inference, clear and abundant exemplification, and cool, clear conclusion for reasons expressed—all so appropriate to a work of the kind, and so eminently characteristic of the author, are here displayed, in an eminent degree, and usually with irresistible effect, so that there would seem to be but few points on which an attentive reader could possibly differ from him.

The several grammars of the native languages which he examines, he has subjected to a thorough philosophical analysis, of which most of the authors of them were incapable; and the results are highly interesting to the philologist, as they are shown to possess some peculiarities of a curious nature—now betraying a resemblance, and now a marked difference, between themselves or some other tongue. This part of Mr. Gallatin's paper will certainly supply an important vacancy in the map of the philologists' and ethnologists' terra incognita; while the style of its execution will stand as a fine example of the form and method in which such investigations should be taken up, pursued and recorded.

The outlines of Mexican history, sketched in the hieroglyphical or pictorial records pre-



served to the present day, are generally well sustained by the indirect evidence deduced by Mr. Gallatin from the various kinds of testimony which he has investigated; but some readers may perhaps be disappointed at finding how few and limited are the facts thus ascertained, and that the value of those records is much smaller than many have imagined. We find a history and description of the several copies of them which have been preserved in Europe, with an explanation of the principles on which the records were made; but it clearly appears that the chief and almost only objects of the ancient ones were, to note down the days, months and other periods of time, with the recurrence of the festivals of their religion. With respect to the records subsequent to the Spanish conquest and about that epoch, Mr. Gallatin adduces strong evidences of the interference of foreign hands, which greatly invalidate their value and interest. The general conclusion on this point therefore is, the unpleasant but not surprising one, that no high flight of Mexican intellect has been preserved, and probably was ever made, in any department of thought or study, unless it be in astronomy, in which they used a pretty correct as well as curious calendar.

The chapter on the agriculture of the Mexicans will be read with great interest, as it contains a cogent argument, legitimately drawn from the culture of their great staple article of food, in favor of the origin of their race from some other source than those to which it has commonly been referred. The theory suggested at the conclusion of that subject, respecting the peopling of North America, with its obvious recommendations and difficulties, may hereafter lead to some new inquiries into nations and tribes of Asia and Africa heretofore but little attended to.

The *Grave-Creek Mound*, by Mr. Schoolcraft, is a paper abounding in facts well calculated to gratify the taste of every person possessing any rational curiosity concerning the history of our predecessors on our native soil. Among the various objects found on opening two ancient tombs in that tumulus, was a small stone bearing an engraving of twenty-three characters, in which the learned of Europe have traced a resemblance to several letters in various old alphabets, although the copies of the inscription hitherto published have been quite incorrect. Mr. School-

craft now lays before us the gratifying results of his own examinations; and, by comparing his correct copy of the stone with nearly a dozen ancient Asiatic and European alphabets, we find the exact prototype of almost every character, and nearly all of them are precise copies of the Celtiberic letters.

But our present limits forbid us to dwell longer on this valuable paper, or to do any justice to the several remaining ones—one of which is a very full and instructive history of the celebrated Hamyaritic inscriptions recently copied from the rocks on the southern coast of Arabia, with copies, explanations, and interpretations.

The two remaining papers in this volume, which we hope to be able to notice at a future time, are one from Mr. Frederick Catherswood, the celebrated traveller, on a Punico-Lybian monument at Dugga, and an ancient structure at Bless, both near Carthage; and the other on ancient remains in Tennessee, by Professor Troost.

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## JUVENILE DEPARTMENT.

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### METALS.

Our knives, forks, axes, and most of the other very hard and sharp things we have, are made of iron; while watches, dollars, eagles and other most beautiful and valuable articles are made of silver and gold. No wonder we want to know something about the metals. What is their nature? Where do they come from? How are they worked into so many shapes? Are any of them to be found hereabout? How do they look when taken from the ground? In short, we wish to see the ores and to hear about them. It is reasonable and right to have such a curiosity; and I shall try to satisfy it in my young readers in some degree. They will hereafter, I hope, read, observe and inquire, and so add much more to their knowledge.

There are about 40 metals known. They are all alike in two things: they shine brightly when clean, and spread out when hammered or pressed. Most of them are heavy, hard, and melt in the fire; but there are several which were not known until a few years ago, which will float on water,

and are as soft as dough, and take fire and burn up when wet. This makes it very difficult to keep them pure, and they are never found so, but always changed by burning—that is, combined with the air or gas called oxygen.

I have told you that quartz is made of a particular kind of earth, and clay stones of another and limestones of a third. Those earths are made of three of the curious metals I have spoken of, mixed with oxygen gas, by being burnt in it. Common stones might therefore be called ores: but they are not. What we call ores are the mixtures of silver, iron, lead, copper, zinc, tin, gold, &c. When any metal is found pure, it is not properly called ore. If there be only a small speck of it, in a stone, or among sand, if that speck is pure metal, it is called *native*.

There is then no gold ore in the world, because gold will not mix with oxygen or acids or sulphur. Other metals do and that has made ores of them.

1. *Iron.* Iron is hard, heavy, and dark-colored. But, when pure and clean, it shines so bright that we can hardly tell what color it has. It grows soft when heated red, so that it may be hammered flat or round, or drawn through holes into wire. Heat it till it looks white, and two pieces may be made into one by hammering them together. Heat it hotter yet, and it will melt, and run like molasses. When melted it is cast in moulds of sand, of different shapes; and so they make iron stoves, cannon, water pipes, anchors &c. Sheet iron is made by pressing it between rollers. There are many processes and operations in getting it from the ore, and in manufacturing it.

Making steel is one of the most important. Steel is iron combined with a little charcoal. Somehow or other it makes it harder and more elastic.

#### READING HISTORY.

FOR A LITTLE CHILD.

*What is the use of reading History?* History tells us what people have lived at different times and in different parts of the world; what good and evil they have done,

and how God has rewarded and punished them.

It also tells us why useful knowledge of different kinds has increased and spread in some countries, and not in others, and why some nations have been wise and happy, while others were ignorant and miserable.

One of the most important things to be learned from history, is that any person may do much good to many others, and even to a whole people, by getting all the knowledge he can, and loving to make others happy.

It teaches us to understand how much better it is to be a christian than anything else. We, who know history, will see that if every child had been taught the bible, and obeyed it, there would have been no wars nor ignorance nor crimes in the world.

O, I should like to read history, and understand the wisdom which it teaches. How kind has God been, to have ancient books preserved, and so many of them copied in our language! If it had not been for these, we could not have known history. And how kind in him to let me learn to read. Now I know the twenty-six letters, and have begun to put them together in spelling and reading, I shall be able to go on learning more words, until I can read any of the books in our language.

But the Bible is the oldest history in the world. And it is the truest and the wisest. Men made other histories, but God made the Bible. O how wise I should be if I knew all that is in it! Is there any better wisdom to be learned in college? O no.

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#### MISCELLANEOUS.

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*Singular Law Case.*—The New Orleans Crescent City has the following notice of a case tried in that city:

CITY COURT—Before Judge Collens.—A novel case was decided, yesterday, in this court, in which a boy aged about ten years was claimed by two persons, each maintaining that she was the real mother. The plaintiffs, John Paul and Martha Paul, his wife, had lost their son about two weeks ago, and some few days since had been informed that the defendant, a Mrs. Hughes, had the boy in her possession. The latter had lost a son some three years and a half ago, and found this child whom she and some friends said



they identified as the child lost at that time by Mrs. Hughes. The case occupied the Court for three days, but judgment was given in favor of the plaintiffs, it having been satisfactorily proved that the boy was the son of John and Martha Paul. For some time, he (the child) persisted in stating that he really was the son of Mrs. Hughes, and denied his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Paul, and it was not until he was removed from the influence of Mrs. Hughes' presence that he admitted his real identity. We believe that this is a case without precedent, except the one stated to have been brought before King Solomon, which is recorded in the Bible.

**PORTABLE LIFE-BOATS.**—Experiments to test the serviceableness and efficacy of the new life-boat, recently invented by M. Monzani, has been made in presence of a great many nautical and scientific persons, amongst whom were Sir Francis Collier, Sir Edward Parry, Mr. Willock, Chairman of the East India Company, the boat builder of the Royal dockyard, and others. The boat weighs only 216 lbs. with all her tackle and apparatus, and would hold about 24 persons. She is constructed of water-proof cloth, something like sailcloth, stretched on a frame of wood; when not wanted she may be stowed or placed on the deck or other convenient part of any vessel, where she will be flat, not taking up more than three inches in depth, the breadth of the frame or hoop which forms her gunwale.

The experiments were very satisfactory. Her powers were severely tested; she was thrown from the *Alecto* steamer, at a height of 25 feet from the water, into the basin; she took the water safely, not shipping above a quart of the element. Eight men then descended by ropes and boarded her in a minute; they pulled her across the basin and performed a variety of evolutions to the satisfaction of the spectators. She is understood to have all the advantages of what is called the mussoolah boat, without the objections to it. Being flat-bottomed she draws little water, and will ride over a heavy surf, where a common ship's boat could scarcely live. She is portable and light, yet sufficiently strong, and requires no tackle to be hoisted over the side of a ship. By means of this very simple invention half the perils of the ocean may be avoided.—*London paper.*

**CARPET MAKING.**—This business is now carried on in various parts of the United States. Many of the carpets manufactured by our people are not surpassed by those imported from abroad. It is said that our artists have the best machinery, and that their colors, designs and materials are also of the best description. With these advantages on their side, and the fact that living is cheap and taxes light among us, it is not surprising that our people should meet with so much success, as appears to crown their labors in this

great branch of manufacture and trade. It has been proposed to erect a steam carpet mill in the immediate vicinity of Boston. Winnissimet has been mentioned as the place for the establishment of this new mill, but no further particulars concerning the enterprise have yet been made known by the persons who have the subject under consideration.—*Bost. Courier.*

The Franklin (Tenn.) Democrat, of the 13th inst. says—"Mr. Shumake, living six and a half miles south of this place, in digging a well on the top of a hill near his house, discovered the bones of an animal of most enormous size. One of the teeth and one joint of the neck bone is now at the office of Dr. S. S. Mayfield. The tooth weighs four pounds six and a half ounces, and is in a high state of preservation. The enamel on the tooth is near half an inch thick, and as hard as flint."

**A FINE CAMELLIA.**—There is now in the possession of Mrs. Irlam, at Bootle, near Liverpool, a camellia which stands 15 feet high, is 63 feet in circumference, and the stem is seven inches in diameter. It had 4000 flowers. The plant is not so symmetrically formed as it might be, owing to its being crowded; but nevertheless it is a grand specimen, and worthy to be classed among the lions of horticulture. Two years ago, when it was less cramped for room, the sum of 250 guineas was offered for it.

#### The Magazin Pittoresque.

From the preface of the "Magazin Pittoresque," (or what we might call the Penny Magazine of Paris,) commenced in 1833, and still continued, we take the following extract. Like most of the English and French works of this class, it contains eight pages a week. The price is two sous, and the circulation soon reached a hundred thousand. One regrets, however, to find the scope of those publications generally confined to narrow limits, compared with those which we have adopted in our plan. In France, especially, most editors feel compelled to repress the expression of opinions on some of the most important subjects, while they cannot calculate on such a degree of public intelligence as pervades our country.

"Nous voulons qu'on y trouve des objets de toute valeur, de tout choix: choses anciennes, choses modernes, animées, inanimées, monumentales, naturelles, civilisées, sauvages, appartenant à la terre, à la mer, au ciel, à tous les temps, venant de tous les pays, de l'Indostan, de la Chine, aussi bien que de l'Islande, de la Laponie, de Tombuctou, de Rome ou de Paris."

## POETRY.

## The Ass and the Wolf:

*A Fable, translated from the Spanish of Samaniego, for the Am. Penny Magazine.*

A poor lame ass went limping by,  
And saw a wolf, but could not fly;  
So, turning round, he coolly said:  
"Friend wolf, I'm sick, and almost dead.  
This ugly foot—it hurts me, oh!  
I cannot live and suffer so.  
I only wish I'd let alone  
The blacksmith; he the job has done.  
I beg you, with my dying breath,  
Draw out that hob-nail with your teeth;  
'Twill stop the pain—then, if you please,  
Eat me and welcome, at your ease."

The wolf, suspicious of no guile,  
Sure of his prize, began to smile:  
"I've studied well anatomy,  
And surg'ry too, as you shall see;  
The case is plain—I understand;  
I'll do you the business right off-hand.  
Draw out your leg—turn up your hoof;  
Don't fear me, friend! that's far enough."

With his best canine tusk all bared,  
The new professor stood prepared.  
But the lame ass, so pained and sick,  
Drove all his teeth in with a kick,  
Then hobbled off, and left behind  
The wolf complaining to the wind:

"Ah, wretched me! how well I'm paid,  
Because myself a fool I made.  
Oh ye who would your trades forsake,  
Take warning from my sad mistake.  
I got my living and grew richer,  
As long as I remained a butcher;  
But see my wretched, lost condition,  
Since I've begun to turn physician!"

## Independence Day.

A SONG FOR AMERICAN CHILDREN.

TUNE—"Auld Lang Syne," or "There's na' luck," &c.

Come, let us meet this pleasant day,  
To spend an hour or so  
In friendly feelings, social joys,  
With some improvement too.  
Tho' some midst crackers, guns and cakes,  
Pour fiery liquors down,  
Intem'rance soon may ruin all  
A people or a town.

## Chorus.

For there's no pleasure in the streets,  
Where all is rout and noise,  
And bad examples soon may spoil  
The best of girls and boys.

For on the day when first arose  
Our fathers to be free,  
When God appeared against their foes,  
Who should rejoice but we?  
Oh, let us knowledge higher prize,  
And all the means He's given

To fit us to do good on earth,  
And find our way to heaven.

Look north, and south, and east, and west,  
No other land you'll find,  
Where children can so well improve  
In manners, heart, and mind.  
For here the people rulers be,  
And order all that's done;  
Oh, if they all were wise and good,  
What land were like our own?

For God, who gave our fathers brave  
The Bible for their guide,  
And safely led them to this land  
Across the ocean's tide,  
Who gave us churches, schools and laws,  
And many priceless things,  
Would have us governed by ourselves,  
And not by popes or kings.

Then let us learn, while we are young,  
Our passions to subdue,  
That when we take our parents' place,  
We may be patriots true.  
And long may Independence Day  
Return and find us free,  
And children meet with songs to praise  
The GOD OF LIBERTY!

Chorus.—For there's no pleasure, &c.

There is not a more common error of self-deception than a habit of considering our stations in life so ill-suited to our powers, as to be unworthy of calling out a full and proper exercise of our talents.

As society is constituted, there cannot be many employments which demand very brilliant talents, or great delicacy of taste, for their proper discharge.

✂ Editors receiving this paper in exchange, are invited to reinsert the following advertisement:

## THE AMERICAN PENNY MAGAZINE

AND FAMILY NEWSPAPER,

Edited by Theodore Dwight, Jr.

Is published weekly, at the office of the New York Express, No. 112 Broadway, at 3 cents a number, (16 pages large octavo,) or, to subscribers receiving it by mail, and paying in advance, \$1 a year. The postage from July onwards will be *Free* for this city, Brooklyn, Harlem, Newark, and all other places within 30 miles; and only *one cent* a copy for other parts of the United States. Persons forwarding the money for five copies, will receive a sixth gratis. Editors known to have published this advertisement, with an editorial notice of the work, will be supplied with it for one year. By the quantity, \$2 a hundred. The work will form a volume of 832 pages annually.

✂ Postmasters are authorized to remit money without charge.

✂ We particularly request the public to remember that *no person* is authorized to receive money in advance for this paper, except the Editor or Publishers and an Agent in Ohio and the five south-western counties of Pennsylvania, who will show an attested certificate, signed by the Editor.